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09/998,860

REMARKS

Applicant requests continued examination of the application.

A final Office action mailed January 20, 2004, has been received in the above-captioned application.

The specification has been amended to correct a reference numeral to agree with the figures.

Claims 22-30 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 22-30 and added new claims 31-33. Thus, any of the rejections applicable to claims 22-30 are moot.

Applicant has added new claims 31-33, which Applicant submits define an invention that is not anticipated by, and is non-obvious over, the cited references of record, taken singularly or in combination. Applicant submits that no new matter is added by the addition of the new claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of the response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 17-0026. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: May 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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